



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
PATENT APPLICATION EXAMINING OPERATIONS

Applicant: Brian DONOVAN

Serial N^o: 09/410,202

Filed: September 30, 1999

Title: ZERO OVERHEAD COMPUTER INTERRUPTS WITH TASK
SWITCHING

Group Art Unit: 2155

Examiner: David Y. Eng

#10/c
(GHE.)
LDS
10-18-02

RECEIVED

SECOND AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

OCT 16 2002

Technology Center 2100

1600 ODS Tower
601 SW. Second Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97204-3157

October 10, 2002

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed August 28, 2002, please amend the
application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 5 as follows.

— — 5. The interrupt and task change processing circuit of claim 4 wherein
said task priority selection circuit includes a variable rate task priority incrementing circuit
for varying an assigned priority of a task such that said priority increases with time,